

RE: Eastern Iowa Industrial Rail Project RPD-FE06(001)--49-82

Mike.LaPietra to: Randy.Hyler

12/15/2010 03:57 PM

Cc: pminer, Christa.Dean, Roselyn.Wazny, DeeAnn.Newell, Brad.Hofer

Randy,

The Iowa Division concurs with your approach. The additional impacts are not significant, and the original FONSI clearance date of 7/8/2008 is still valid.

Mike

-----Original Message-----

From: Hyler, Randy [DOT] [mailto:Randy.Hyler@dot.iowa.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, December 14, 2010 11:00 AM

To: LaPietra, Mike (FHWA)

Cc: 'Miner, Pam'; 'Christa.Dean@stb.dot.gov'; Wazny, Roselyn [DOT];

Newell, Deeann [DOT]; Hofer, Brad [DOT]

Subject: FW: Eastern Iowa Industrial Rail Project RPD-FE06(001)--49-82

Mike,

As you probably recall, the City of Davenport changed the alignment of the railway after the EA and FONSI were signed. This new alignment was slightly outside of the original study area and we advised the city they would need to prepare a supplemental EA, hold a public hearing and amend the FONSI.

The City has evaluated the area outside of the initial study area and provided the attached table that shows resource impacts that have changed with the new alignment. I have also attached a project map, SHPO letter and a picture of an abandoned warehouse for your reference.

In summary, the new alignment would require approximately 6.24 additional acres of ROW, would affect 4 additional parcels but no additional property owners, farmland impacts would be reduced by approximately 2.8 acres and one abandoned warehouse building would need to be acquired. The IADOT believes these additional impacts are not at the level that would require the preparation of an EIS and we recommend that a supplemental EA/FONSI not be completed. Instead we recommend that the information contained in this email be used as a project re-evaluation. Do you concur with this approach?

If you concur, the IADOT would recommend that the original clearance date of 07/08/2008 be retained.

The email below indicates the Surface Transportation Board (cooperating agency) has concurred that a supplemental EA is not necessary for this project. Please let me know if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Thanks,

Randy Hyler
IADOT-NEPA Section

-----Original Message-----

From: Christa.Dean@stb.dot.gov [mailto:Christa.Dean@stb.dot.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, December 14, 2010 10:29 AM
To: Hyler, Randy [DOT]
Cc: Hofer, Brad [DOT]; Newell, Deeann [DOT];
'mike.lapietra@fhwa.dot.gov'; 'Miner, Pam'; Wazny, Roselyn [DOT];
Vicki.Rutson@stb.dot.gov
Subject: Re: Eastern Iowa Industrial Rail Project RPD-FE06(001)--49-82

The Surface Transportation Board's Office of Environmental Analysis has reviewed the proposed new rail alignment, as well as its potential impacts, and after speaking with Mike LaPietra today, we concur with the determination that a supplemental Environmental Assessment is not necessary for the Eastern Iowa Industrial Rail Project.

As soon as it becomes available, please send documentation of FHWA's determination or agreement that the original finding will not be affected by the proposed alignment change. The documentation may be emailed to christa.dean@stb.dot.gov or it can be mailed to:

Surface Transportation Board
Office of Environmental Analysis
Attn: Christa Dean
395 E Street SW, Room 1108
Washington DC 20423

Thank you,
Christa Dean

Christa L. Dean, Attorney
Surface Transportation Board
Office of Environmental Analysis
202.245.0299

From: "Hyler, Randy [DOT]" <Randy.Hyler@dot.iowa.gov>
To: "'Christa Dean (christa.dean@stb.dot.gov)'"
<christa.dean@stb.dot.gov>
'Cc: "'mike.lapietra@fhwa.dot.gov'" <mike.lapietra@fhwa.dot.gov>,
'"Miner, Pam"' <pminer@ci.davenport.ia.us>, "Wazny, Roselyn
[DOT]" <Roselyn.Wazny@dot.iowa.gov>, "Hofer, Brad [DOT]"
<Brad.Hofer@dot.iowa.gov>, "Newell, Deeann [DOT]"
<DeeAnn.Newell@dot.iowa.gov>
Date: 12/01/2010 10:20 AM
Subject: Eastern Iowa Industrial Rail Project
RPD-FE06(001)--49-82

Christa,

As you probably recall, the City of Davenport changed the alignment of the railway after the EA and FONSI were signed. This new alignment was slightly outside of the original study area and we advised the city they would need to prepare a supplemental EA, hold a public hearing and amend the FONSI.

The City has evaluated the area outside of the initial study area and provided the attached table that shows resource impacts that have changed with the new alignment. I have also attached a project map, SHPO

letter and a picture of an abandoned warehouse for your reference.

In summary, the new alignment would require approximately 6.24 additional acres of ROW, would affect 4 additional parcels but no additional property owners, farmland impacts would be reduced by approximately 2.8 acres and one abandoned warehouse building would need to be acquired. The IADOT believes these additional impacts are not at the level that would require the preparation of an EIS and we recommend that a supplemental EA/FONSI not be completed. Instead we recommend that the information contained in this email be used as a project re-evaluation. Do you concur with this approach? If you concur, the IADOT would recommend that the original clearance date of 07/08/2008 be retained. Please let me know if you have any questions need any additional information.

Thank you,

Randy Hyler

Iowa Department of Transportation

Office of Location & Environment

800 Lincoln Way

Ames, IA 50010

Phone: 515-233-7977

Email: randy.hyder@dot.iowa.gov

(See attached file: Revised EA Table 6 (2).doc) (See attached file: New Alignment Map.pdf) (See attached file: RE_RPD-FED06(010)--45-82, Cultural Resources Clearance.pdf) (See attached file: 70110 011.jpg)